

(ii) determining whether said candidate agent stimulates the biological activities of the said polypeptide.

11. (Amended) A method for identifying an agent useful for the inhibition of angiogenesis and/or tumor growth, said method comprising the steps

(i) contacting a candidate agent with a mammalian IPAS polypeptide according to claim 2; and

(ii) determining whether said candidate agent stimulates the biological activities of the said polypeptide, such stimulation being indicative for an agent useful for the treatment of a medical condition related to angiogenesis and/or tumor growth.

13. (Amended) A method for the treatment of angiogenic disease or tumor growth, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of an agent identified by the method according to claim 8.

14. (Amended) The use or method according to claim 12, wherein said angiogenic disease is related to ischemic cardiovascular lesions, stroke, or diabetic microvascular diseases.

Please add the following claims 15-21:

--15. (New) A method for the treatment of angiogenic disease or tumor growth, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of an agent identified by the method according to claim 9. --

--16. (New) A method for the treatment of angiogenic disease or tumor growth, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of an agent identified by the method according to claim 10. --

--17. (New) A method for the treatment of angiogenic disease or tumor growth, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of an agent identified by the method according to claim 11. --

--18. (New) A cultured host cell harboring a vector according to claim 5. --

--19. (New) The use or method according to claim 15, wherein said angiogenic disease is related to ischemic cardiovascular lesions, stroke, or diabetic microvascular diseases. --

--20. (New) The use or method according to claim 16, wherein said angiogenic disease is related to ischemic cardiovascular lesions, stroke, or diabetic microvascular diseases. --

--21. (New) The use or method according to claim 17, wherein said angiogenic disease is related to ischemic cardiovascular lesions, stroke, or diabetic microvascular diseases. --